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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Marsha Kitagawa (808) 539-4909 For O`ahu Media Release: April 17, 2003

Fifth Circuit Invites Community to Law Day Program

The Fifth Judicial Circuit of the Hawai`i State Judiciary is hosting a Law Day program from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday, May 1, 2003, in the Circuit Court courtroom, 3059 Umi Street. The free event is open to the public. Refreshments will be served following the program.

The program will feature the video, "Broken Scales: Justice Under Influence." Through a role-playing scenario, the video depicts a man's journey through a nightmare world where one of the cornerstones of democracy-judicial independence-has crumbled. He is awakened to a new understanding of and greater appreciation for an independent judiciary, one that is free of outside influences.

Following the video presentation, a panel of judges will be available to answer questions about the judiciary and about judicial independence. Judiciary officials will also give an overview about the new judiciary complex.

The official name of the new courthouse, Pu`uhonua Kaulike, meaning "Sanctuary of Justice" in Hawaiian, was announced last week. In a "name-the-building" contest, Judiciary employees submitted English phrases based on what they felt would best represent the Judiciary. Kauai's Hawaiian expert, Pohaku Nishimitsu, translated the 13 nominations of English phrases into Hawaiian. A panel of four judges selected the name from an anonymous list of English and Hawaiian phrases and Chief Justice Ronald Moon approved the new name.

The winner was Lianne Parongao, Fifth Judicial Circuit's newest senior probation officer, who received a \$100 cash award donated by the four Fifth Judicial Circuit judges.

Law Day is a national event held each year on or around May 1 to increase public awareness about the American heritage of liberty under the law.

For further information about Fifth Judicial Circuit's Law Day program, please call Ernest Barreira at 246-3347.

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